

**John Carlyle to George Washington, June 17, 1754,
Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers.
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FROM COLONEL JOHN CARLYLE.¹

ALEXANDRIA June 17 1754.

DR SIR

I received your favor of the 6th by Mr Gist² & am Very Sorry that its not In our power to Supply you faster & better than We doe; its not for want of Will, but for two reasons first a Scarcity of Cash & Secondly We are Deceived by Those that we depend opon. I

Wrote you that I had Agreed with Mr Croghan³ for 50,000 Wt of Flour to be Delivered at his risque at the Camp In 15 days from the time of his Making the Agreement the 31 May at Winchester, he told the Governour that he had 40,000 & by what I can Learn he had not 400£ but has Sent his Bros. Word to purchase, as he is With you pray oblige him to perform his Agreement, I understand he's not a man of Truth, & therefor not to be depended on, the Governour See into him, before he left Winchester, & Was Sorry he put him into any Trust but as he's to Act by your Directions, doubt not but you'l Take care of him,

Mr Gist Tells me he has Agreed with Robt. Callinder for 80 horse Load of Flower to be Delivered Also at his risque In 30 days & We have Wheat now At the Mills to make 50,000

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Wt., you cannot Immadgeon, but that we do all We can, & as soon as the New Crops Come In, you Shall have plenty.

Your people you may Ashure them from Me, Shall be paid to the last Farthing, in A few days. I have A Messenger at Williamsburg for Money, Which Shall Immediately Send or bring up to Wills Creek, & have Sent up per Mr Gists. What Shirts we have ready, & Shous & are Getting Red Coats made for All that has not got for the 25c\ Given by the Country By the order of the Governour, as the Intention of the Gift, to put them all In one Dress if possible. Theres none but yr Men that Went out first have much to Settle for, they are to be paid to the 29 May. Capt. Stobo's Men & that Division was settled with to 1st May & Capt. Lewis's Was pd. to the 11 the day they Marchd

The Carradge on horses is so expensive that Sum Method must be Thought of to mend the roads, that Waggons may pass its the Govr. directions, that you shoud keep Castleman's waggons, &c. Also Basenton & Henry Vanmeter Was to purchase Another to goe with the Oxen & Ill see if I Can Gett Two more & Capt Stobo has one to Make Out 6 waggons & they Going Constantly from Wills Creek to Redstone Will Supply you but the Road might be Mended for the Waggoners Will not Carry farther than Wills Creek & if our own Waggoners Coud Carry from thence, we Shou'd run no risque Cannot you Spare a few Men to blow up any Rocks that may be Needful &c.

As to Tools Shall gett out as many as We Can, but as Stobo has A Smith, & tools, & you have Iron & Steel I believe you may gett trowels &c made Easier than we can Send them out, as they Take A Small Quantity of Iron & Steel.

Mr Gist brings you Cloath for Britches & by the first Shipe Expect you May have Ye things from London that Ye Sent for.

I Expect my Messenger in three days With Cash & then Shall Either come up myself, or Send Mr Wood, to pay of your men a Little Money Will put them In high Spirits.

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I would have you Caution them not to run In Debt for befor their pay becomes due again, Ill have Goods up, & Let them have Necessarys on the cheapest Terms, as Cheap as Mr Croghan buys himself.

Their is plenty of powder & Lead With Col. Muse & at the New Store & Mr Gist has orders to hurry it out as Soon as possible

I have given Mr Gist orders to Agree with Mr. Cooper to Come out & take upon him Cap. Hays Post, & hope he may give Satisfaction, tho. desire you take care to put no more than his duty upon him, Which is only to give to Each Company their provisions & the Sargints to devide & not he, for no one I can Employ will Undertake the whole upon any other Terms.

I Shall write you by Mr Wood or when I come up to Wills Creck Which I Expect to be in ten Days.

We have No Certain acct. that the New York forces are Yet In the River, We dayly Expect them, & Col. Fairfax is to revew them, & to report their Condition, We are Also dayly Expecting the No. Carolina forces & the South Indians they are to Come to Winchester, & Col Fairfax & I are Appointd Commissioners to Give them part of the Goods their & the Remainder is to be Sent up to you

Jno. West is Raising 30 men to Compleat your Regiment & Will be With You In Ten or 15 Days. his Friends Expect he'll gett a Captain's Com. Tho their is a Good many Vacanses, yett he cannot Expect it, as he's but third or fourth Lieut. I am in hopes you'll think on Towers & that his behavior will Deserve yr favour.

The Two Cols Fairfax's are not Very well the Old Gentleman with Sumthing of the flux the Young Gentleman the fever & ague I am In hopes they are both on the Recovery.

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Mrs Fairfax is still below. My Sally promises to write to you but know not whether She'd be so Good as her Word.

We have no particular news here only We have had great Rejoicings on Yr Good Success & are now out of fear for you As We Are well Ashured the forces under Mase & Capt Mackay must have joyned you the Latter & his Officers you must Like.

I am Dr Sir Yr Very Affectionet &c JOHN CARLYLE. p. S.

I have got 2 hhd. of your Tobacco down & have pd of yr Carpinters yr. order. the Tobacco is but Indiferent & with Sum trouble passed Inspection.

J. C.

Copy of an agreement with Mr Croghan May 30 1754

This day Agreed with John Carlyle Comr of Stores for to Deliver Ten thousand wt. of Flour to the Comr In Chief at the English Camp at or near Red Stone Creek at my risque for which I am to receive 3d paper perCt. In Two months paymt

As Witness my hand this Day Abov

GEO. GROGHAN

Test DRAPER S. WOOD

N. B This to be Delvd. In 15 Days from the Date Inclosed is Invoice of Sundrys Sent you I pattern for [mutilated] for yr Self. Two others may Lett any of the officers have The shirts are Ill made but Good Linnen & we understood Mr pirvance wanted —

Their 20 cheqd Shirts which may Let those have thats In the Greatest Want, & Shall send 500 more soon the other things belongs to the Country.

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1 Colonel John Carlyle, of Alexandria, was a native of Scotland, who early in life became a merchant on the Potomac. He was twice married; first to Sarah, second daughter of the Hon. William Fairfax, of "Belvoir." He was in business in Alexandria as early as 1745. In 1753 he erected, on Fairfax Street, a large stone residence, which is still standing, and in which he entertained General Braddock in 1755 and the governors of the five provinces who met there to concert measures for the campaign against the French on the Ohio, which ended so disastrously. He was appointed by Governor Dinwiddie in 1754 commissary of provisions and stores for the expedition of that year to the Ohio. His mercantile and shipping business was conducted under a copartnership with John Dalton. When, in 1748, a charter was granted for the town of Alexandria, he was named in the Act as one of the trustees. On the death of his father-in-law, William Fairfax, he was appointed as royal collector of the Potomac. He and all the members of his family were frequent visitors at Mount Vernon. His second wife was Sybil West, daughter of Hugh and Sybil (Harrison) West.—TONER.

2 Christopher Gist was of English descent. His grandfather was Christopher Gist, who died in Baltimore County in 1691. His grandmother was Edith Cromwell, who died in 1694. They had one child, Richard, who was surveyor of the Western Shore, and was one of the commissioners, in 1729, for laying off the town of Baltimore, and presiding magistrate in 1736. In 1705 he married Zipporah Murray, and Christopher was one of three sons. He married Sarah Howard; his brother, Nathaniel, married Mary Howard; and Thomas, the third brother, married Violetta Howard, aunts of General John Eager Howard. From either Nathaniel or Thomas descended General Gist, who was killed at the battle of Franklin, Tenn., near the close of the late civil war. Christopher had three sons, Nathaniel, Richard, and Thomas, and one daughter, Nancy, none of whom, except Nathaniel, were married. Because of his knowledge of the country on the Ohio, and his skill in dealing with the Indians, Christopher Gist was chosen to accompany Washington on his mission in 1753, and it was from his journal that Sparks and Irving derived their account of that expedition. With his sons, Nathaniel and Thomas, he was with Braddock on the fatal field of Monongahela, and for his services received a grant of 12,000 acres of land from the King of England. Richard was killed in the battle of King's Mountain. Thomas lived on the plantation, and was a man of note then, presiding in the courts till his death, about 1786. Nancy lived with him until his death, when she joined her brother Nathaniel, and removed with him to the grant in Kentucky, about the beginning of this century. Nathaniel Gist, the grandfather of Hon. Montgomery Blair, of Maryland, married Judith Carey Bell, of Buckingham County, Va., a grand-niece of Archibald Carey, the mover of the Bill of Rights in the House of Burgesses. Nathaniel was a colonel in the Virginia line during the Revolutionary War, and died early in the present century at an old age. He left two sons, Henry Carey and Thomas Cecil. His eldest daughter, Sarah Howard, married the Hon. Jesse Bledsoe, a United States senator from Kentucky, and a distinguished jurist; his grandson, B. Gratz Brown, was the Democratic candidate for Vice-President in 1872. The second daughter of Colonel Gist, Anne (Nancy), married Colonel Nathaniel Hart, a brother of Mrs. Henry Clay. The third daughter married Dr. Boswell, of Lexington, Ky. The fourth daughter married Francis P. Blair. The fifth daughter married Benjamin Gratz, of Lexington, Ky.—LOWDERMILK.

3 An Indian trader who received from Braddock a commission as captain to command the savages during the campaign.